

PMB 71-0912

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20503

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JAN 8 1971

Honorable Allen J. Ellender
Chairman, Committee on Appropriations
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

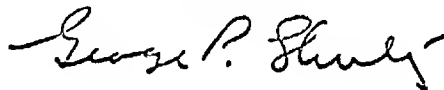
I am writing to request your assistance in assuring continued funding for Radio Free Europe and Radio Liberty until congressional action can be completed on arrangements for overt financing of these programs.

As you know, the Administration has recently proposed legislation to create an American Council for Private International Communications, a private corporation, which would be responsible for administering grants to the Radios. Since, I understand, the Congress is unlikely to include funds in CIA's regular 1972 budget for the Radios, there is a need to provide interim financing until action on the new legislation and the necessary appropriation can be completed.

Use of the authority of the 1972 Continuing Resolution would be legally available to CIA for interim financing until final action on the Agency's regular appropriation. I will be happy to meet with you at your earliest convenience to discuss how best to assure an orderly transition to overt funding.

The President believes that the activities of the two Radios are highly important to our foreign policy objectives and is hopeful that the Congress will act favorably on the proposed legislation at an early date.

Sincerely,



Director

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